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PLAN FULFILLMENT IN USSR AND PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES IN 1955

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(Prepared on the basis of reports on fulfillment of plans)

/No 4, Pages 185-191/

The past year was of special significance for the countries with planned economies. It was the final year of the five-year plan in the Soviet Union and the First Five-Year Plans in Albania, German Democratic Republic and Rumania; also the final year of the Six-Year Plan in Poland.

Fulfillment of specific tasks stipulated for each year of the whole program made it possible to fulfill the five year plan 8 months in the Soviet Union and 51 days in Rumania ahead of schedule.

Results of fulfillment of plans for individual countries in 1955 are listed below. They are grouped in subject categories. (Figures pertaining to production, status, etc with no dates indicated denote 1955 and increase above 1954 level.)

INDUSTRY

1. Production

Fulfillment of yearly plans for gross production in the socialist sector in 1955 and increase over 1954 in individual countries:

	Fulfillment of yearly plan for 1955 in %	1955 compared with 1954 in %
Soviet Union	103	112
Czechoslovakia	103	110.6
Albania	101.4	113
Bulgaria	104.5	109.6
Hungary	103.2	108.2
German Democratic Republic*	101.5	108.3
Poland	103.4	111
Rumania	108	114

* Including private industry; based on the report of the Minister of Finance.

Bulgarian state industry fulfilled 104.8% of the plan, local industry 98.6% and cooperative industry 109%. Heavy industry produced 2.2 billion levs worth more (in approximately corresponding prices of 1939) than stipulated by the plan for 1955. The production level anticipated in the Second Bulgarian Five-Year Plan for 1957 in production and processing of fuels and in the production of fertilizers was exceeded already in 1955 in the chemical industry.

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Hungarian local industry fulfilled the plan to 104.5% and the productive cooperatives to 101.1%.

Compared with 1954, the gross output of local industries and productive cooperatives increased in Czechoslovakia by 25%, in Hungary for government directed industry by 7.6%, for local industry by 11.9%, and for cooperative industry by 10.8%. In Albania the output in local industry increased by 14% and in productive cooperatives by 21%.

The following data, included in the reports on fulfillment of plans for development of national industries, show the production increase over 1954 for several industrial fields:

Bulgaria		Hungary	
Fuel and Power Industry	25%	Pharmaceutical Industry	29.1%
Metallurgy	21%	Chemical Industry	
Nonferrous Metallurgy	10%	Organic	19.1%
Chemical Industry	37%	Inorganic	7 %
		Food Industry	6.7%
		Building Materials Industry	16.5%

Increase in gross output in the whole industry is attributed to the 80% increased work productivity in Czechoslovakia, in Hungary to more than 75% and in Rumania to more than 80%.

Index of production increase in the most important categories compared with 1954:

	USSR	Czecho- slovakia	Bulgaria	Hungary	Poland	Rumania
Increase in 1955 over 1954 in %						
Electric power	13	10	19	12.8	15	16
Hard Coal	13	6	15	3.6	3	10
Soft Coal					2	
Crude Oil	19	-	-	31.6	-2	8
Iron	11	7	-	-	17	33
Steel	9	5	-	9.3	12	22
Roller Bearings	19	40	-	-	26	48 ¹
Tractors	21	52	-	-	3	-
Tractor-plows	2	-	110	-	-	7
Freightcars	44	-	72	-	4	-
Automobiles	14	130	-	-	139	-
Trucks	9	-	-	-	-	329
Motorcycles	19	74	-	-	-	-
Bicycles	21	-	-	-	20	-
Nitrogen Fertilizers		57	7	-	55	
Phosphate Fertilizers	20	17	-	-	8	70
Sulphuric Acid	-	-	27	-	7	25
Paper	5	4	25	-	10	3
Cement	18	13	4	24.1	12	28
Bricks	12	14	6	5.3	6	19
Cotton Textiles	6	4	11	4.4	8	16
Wool Textiles	3	13	6	20.2	6	4
Silk Textiles	2	25	-	22.7	8	30
Footwear	7 ²	29 ³	5 ⁴	15.7 ⁴	6 ⁴	33 ⁴
Furniture	7	10	-	-	13	27
Iceboxes	61	-	-	-	54	-

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	USSR	Czecho- slovakia	Bulgaria	Hungary	Poland	Rumania
Radios	22	-	42	-	50	81
Meat	3	10	9	-	2	35
Canned Meat	8 ⁵	35	24	-	-	17
Vegetable Fats	2 ⁶	-	-	-	13	-
Milk	-	-	-	-	8	17
Butter	18	16	11	-	2	40
Cheese	22	-	24	-	-	20
Sugar	31	-	-	-	-5	39
Confectionery	-	20	10 ⁷	-	21 ⁷	-
Beer	-	-	6	-	-1	-

1. Ball Bearings, 2. Footwear of all types, 3. Light walking shoes,
4. Leather shoes, 5. Pork products, 6. Margarine, 7. Candy.

Albania recorded the following production increases compared with 1954: electricity 35%, coal 30% and crude oil 12%.

The following figures reflect output of basic industrial products in Czechoslovakia and Hungary for 1955:

	Czechoslovakia	Hungary
Electricity (billion kw)	15	5.4
Hard Coal (million tons)	23.2	
Soft Coal (million tons)	38.7	22.3
Lignite (million tons)	2	
Crude Oil (million tons)	-	1.6
Pig Iron (million tons)	almost 3	-
Crude Steel (million tons)	4.5	1.6

Production in other industrial fields in Hungary in 1955:

Rolled Steel	883,000 tons	Sewing Machines	46,100 units
Buses	1,348 units	Cement	1.2 million tons
Railroad Coaches	296 units	Bricks	1.2 billion
Milling Machines	775 units	Cotton Textiles	237 million sq m
Boring Machines	2,523 units	Wool Textiles	26 million sq m
Tractors	4,559 units	Silk Textiles	20 million sq m
Bicycles	217,200 units	Leather Shoes	12.3 million pairs
Radios	373,200 units		

Per capita production in the more significant categories of consumer goods in Bulgaria before the war and in 1955:

	In 1939	In 1955
Cotton Textiles (m)	5.4	17.5
Wool Textiles (m)	0.8	1.4
Silk Textiles (m)	0.2	0.5
Sugar (kg)	4.0	8.3
Meat and Meat Products (kg)	8.0	14.6

2. Technical Development

Better utilization of current equipment and continuous development of new techniques resulted in further increase of industrial output.

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Power Industry. In 1955 Poland introduced automatization of coal feeding to 9 power plants; in addition 3 hydroelectric plants were automatized.

Oil Industry. Compared with 1954 average drilling speed in Rumania increased by 37%.

Coal Industry. Compared with 1954, volume of mechanized loading in shafts rose in the Soviet Union by 24% and in Poland by 34%; automatization of coal mining (in volume) increased in Poland by 15%; in surface mines in Czechoslovakia through the use of bulldozers by 39% and through the use of conveyors by 35%. In Bulgaria mechanization of deep mining reached 95% and 98% for transportation of coal to the surface.

Metallurgy. Compared with 1954, utilization of capacities of blast furnaces increased in the Soviet Union by 4% and in Poland by approximately 6%; steel smelting per one m² of smelting furnaces area increased in the Soviet Union by 4% and in Poland by 5%; in Rumania, utilization of capacities of blast furnaces increased by 22%, of smelting furnaces by 11% and electric furnaces by 23%.

Textile Industry. In Rumania, volume of returns for cotton spinning machines rose 3.2% over 1954; for carding machines 7% and for cotton weaving machines 2.6%.

Proper expenditures in industrial production declined in comparison with 1954 in the Soviet Union by 4.7%, in Bulgaria by 4.2% and in Poland by 2.9%.

AGRICULTURE

Compared with 1954, the total volume of agricultural production in Czechoslovakia rose according to the preliminary reports by 11.5%; in Poland the value of gross agricultural production increased by 3% (planned increase, however, was fulfilled to 97% only).

In 1955 special emphasis was placed on increased acreage of cultivation areas. Compared with 1954 total cultivation area was enlarged in the Soviet Union by 19.5 million ha (with 13% increase for grain crop cultivation): in Czechoslovakia the main increase affected cultivation acreage for corn (9%) and rape (22%); and in Bulgaria for fodder plants (3%). Through cultivation of fallows Poland enlarged its cultivation area by 170,000 ha, of which more than 10,000 ha were utilized for grain crops and legumes; further increase was in acreage for sugar beets (3%), rape (4%), textile plants (13%) and corn (230%). Total cultivation acreage in Rumania increased by 160,000 ha (of which 13% were for bread grain).

Harvest of many agricultural products exceeded the preceding years. In the Soviet Union the grain harvest was considerably larger than in 1954, with 260% increase in corn, 74% in flax, 100% in sunflowers, 54% in sugar beets. Czechoslovakia recorded a 33.3% increase for wheat, 19.5% for rye, 8.9% for sugar beets and 2.6% for potatoes above 1954 crops. In Bulgaria increase in corn crops reached 500,000 tons, or more than total corn crop in 1952. Hungary harvested 26.8 million tons of bread grain, 7.9 million tons of barley, 29.2 million tons corn, 20.8 million tons potatoes and 22.2 million tons sugar beets. Poland produced 15% above 1954 in the 4 basic grain crops. In Rumania grain crops reached almost 12 million tons; furthermore, there was a 17%

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increase in sunflower crops and 13% in winter potatoes.

In Hungary, state farms and farm productive cooperatives recorded generally a larger yield per ha than individual farmers, i.e., 40% for grain crops in state farms and 20-25% in cooperatives, and for barley 20% and 10% respectively. In Bulgaria the per ha yield for potatoes increased by 67.4% compared with 1954.

Greater emphasis was placed on mechanization of agricultural work. The following data reflect the expansion of mechanical and technical base for 1955:

Delivered to agricultural sector in 1955

	Tractors	Tractor-Plows	Combines	Threshers	Selfbinders
Soviet Union	218,000 ¹	98,000	46,000	-	-
Czechoslovakia	5,284 ¹	4,013	1,443	929	-
Bulgaria	2,203 ¹	-	843	-	-
Hungary	6,500 ²	-	400	1,100	600
Poland	9,000 ¹	-	900	-	-
Rumania	3,580 ¹	3,051	562	1,257	1,565

1. Computed in tractors of 15 horsepower. 2. Including 2,500 universal tractors

In addition the agricultural sector received in 1955 other machinery as well. In the Soviet Union, agriculture was supplied with 15,000 potato diggers, 7,000 siliqueous plants combines, 4,000 corn combines, 7,000 sugar beets harvesters, 119,000 seeder-tractors, 105,000 cultivators and 23,000 reaper-tractors. Of the total truck production in the Soviet Union agricultural sector received 112,000 trucks and in Czechoslovakia 2,053. Further mechanization of the Czechoslovak agriculture was procured by deliveries of 147 flax harvesters, 6,246 drill planters, 3,655 buck-board plows and 1,249 potato diggers.

Polish agriculture received in addition to the items listed in the above table 20,000 grain seeders, over 2,500 potato planters, 1,800 seeder-tractors and about 3,000 selfbinder-tractors. Compared with 1954, volume of supplied agricultural machinery increased 10% in tractors, 35% in harvesters, 25% in grain seeders, 5% in potato planters, 69% in reaper-tractors and over 100% in selfbinder-tractors.

Total tractors on Polish state farms and state machine and tractor stations at the end of the past year reached over 56,000 (computed in tractors of 15 hp).

At the end of 1955 Poland has 424 machine and tractor stations and over 2,999 local machine bases (190 more than during the preceding year). Czechoslovakia established 95 new centers. In Albania the total machine and tractor stations rose 61.5% over 1954.

In Poland STS (machine and tractor stations) machine and tractor park showed the following increase compared with 1954: tractors 22%, combines 73%, potato diggers 54%, potato planters 52%, reapers 24% and selfbinders 17%. Total of tractors in the Albanian STS (machine and tractor stations) rose 58.5% over 1954.

Compared with 1954, productivity of the machine and tractor stations in collective farms increased 11% in the Soviet Union, in Bulgaria by 28.6%; in Rumania by 29%; in Albania by 52% (in areas

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cultivated by cooperatives and individual farmers), in Czechoslovakia by close to 700,000 average ha and in Hungary by 1.3 million average acres, or a total of 8 million average acres in tractor work.

In the Soviet Union 80% of all crops were harvested mechanically: in Czechoslovakia 25%.

Expansion of the agricultural mechanization in Bulgaria is illustrated by the following figures:

Work Category	Percentage of Mechanization	
	in 1954	in 1955
Grain Sowing	42.5	51.1
Deep plowing in fall	63.6	66.8

Compared with 1954, productivity per one tractor (computed in tractors of 15 hp) increased 3% in Bulgaria.

In 1955 the Soviet Union established 301 new state farms in the fallow areas. Polish state farms increased their total agricultural production by 12%; enlarged the cultivation acreage by 5% and increased their yield per ha for the 4 principal grain categories by 29%. State farms in Czechoslovakia increased their acreage by 80,000 ha.

Number of agricultural cooperatives in Poland totaled 9,963 by the end of 1955 and over 6,600 in Rumania, incorporating more than 390,000 families. In Czechoslovakia, number of agricultural cooperatives of class III and IV increased by 293 with additional acreage of 44,000 ha and new membership of 26,000.

In Bulgaria 27,700 additional farms were incorporated into agricultural cooperatives during 1955 and in Hungary almost 60,000 families with 350,000 acres.

The socialist sector of agriculture covers 43.1% of the total cultivated acreage in Czechoslovakia. In Hungary it covers over 1/3.

In 1955 Bulgarian agricultural cooperatives harvested 44.3% of all crops by combines and threshing was mechanized to 93.7%.

Deliveries of fertilizers in net nutrients exceeded 1954:

	Czechoslovakia in % of 1954	Poland
Total	-	114
Breakdown:		
Nitrogen Fertilizers	128	113
Phosphate Fertilizers	119	119
Potash Fertilizers	121	112
Granulated Super-phosphate		350

In 1955 Polish agriculture received a total of 544,000 synthetic fertilizers in value of net nutrients. In Rumania deliveries exceeded 1954 substantially, but were not fully utilized.

The USSR also increased its livestock. As of 1 October 1955, count of livestock in collective and state farms, and ownership by farmers in collective farms records 67 million of cattle (22.2 million

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cows included), 52.1 million hogs and 124.9 million sheep. Increase in livestock against the same date in 1954 was as follows: cattle 2.1 million: cows 1.7 million: hogs 1 million and sheep 7.4 million.

Compared with 1954 Czechoslovakia increased the stock of cattle by 52,000 and stock of hogs by 684,000.

Stock of sheep in Hungary increased in the same period by over 200,000 and stock of hogs exceeded 8 million in October 1955. Stock of poultry was higher than average prewar level.

As of June 1955 Poland had 7.9 million cattle, 10.9 million hogs and 4.2 million sheep.

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The following table, based on livestock counts and other available data, shows gains for 1955 over 1954:

Increase of 1955 over 1954 in %

	Cattle	Cows	Hogs	Sheep	Horses
Soviet Union					
collective farms	-	5	3	2	-
state farms	-	7	9	5	-
Bulgaria					
socialist sector	24.5	19.8	-	9.4	-
agricultural cooperatives	2.4	-	10.3	2.6	-
Poland					
total	3	-	11	2	-
state farms	13	-	-	-	-
Rumania	3.2	-	11.3	12.6	3.6

Soviet Union: 1 October 1954-1 October 1955. Bulgaria: beginning-end 1955. Poland: June 1954-June 1955. Rumania: agricultural cooperatives

Average milk yield increased in the Soviet Union (collective farms for the period 1 October 1954-1 October 1955) by 16%; in Czechoslovakia by 8.9% and in Bulgaria by 260 liters.

Compared with 1954 milk production increased by 31% in the Soviet Union (collective farms), in Czechoslovakia by 249 million liters, in Bulgaria (agricultural cooperatives) by 40 million liters and in Hungary (state farms) by 13 million liters.

The number of calves bred per 100 cows increased 7.3% in Czechoslovakia and number of suckling pigs per one swine increased by 4.1%. During the same period mortality of calves declined by 6.5% and of suckling pigs by 6%.

In Bulgarian agricultural cooperatives, average shear per one sheep increased by 180 grams over 1954.

The number of sheep bearing fine or semi-fine wool rose in the total of sheep at state farms in Rumania from 90.6% in 1954 to 93.2% in 1955.

Better composition of stock and improved feeding methods contributed in Bulgaria to the increased utility of animal production. For example,

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compared with 1954, 12.8% more of hay and 38.1% more of feed concentrates were stored and the amount of ensilaged fodder was doubled.

AGRICULTURAL MARKET

General increase of farm productivity brought forth expansion of market for agricultural products compared with 1954.

Plans for total marketing of several agricultural products were fulfilled in Czechoslovakia and Hungary as indicated below:

In % of Plan for 1955

	Czechoslovakia	Hungary
Grain Total	104	-
Wheat	106	106.3
Rye	98	108
Barley	114	109.6
Oats	-	-
Sugar Beets	100.5	-
Slaughter Hogs	110	109.5
Milk	102	108.9

However, Czechoslovakia did not fulfill the plan for marketing of potatoes, slaughter cattle and eggs; and Hungary did not fulfill the plan for marketing of slaughter calves, poultry and eggs. Poland did not fulfill the plan for marketing of agricultural products.

Volume of marketed farm products was in 1955 substantially greater than in 1954:

Increase in Deliveries over 1954

	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	Poland	Rumania
Grain total	147 million pud ¹⁾	-	10%	-
Wheat	-	82,000 tons	-	378,000 tons
Rye	-	465,000 tons	-	500,000 tons
Sugar beets	+2	465,000 tons	-	-
Vegetables	+2	59,000 tons	12%	-
Slaughter animals total	+2	-	-	86,000 tons
Slaughter cattle	-	-	4%	-
Slaughter hogs	-	46,000 tons	5%	-
Milk	+2	170 mil l	5%	86.9 million liters
Eggs	+2	83 milk ks	7%	45 million ks
Wool	+2	-	21%	-

1). One pud = 16,360 kg. 2) Considerable increase, but no figures included in the report.

Purchases of Hungarian farm products in 1955 exceeded 1954 with the exception of oats, sunflowers and rice; purchase of poultry increased by 441 freightcar loads in spite of rising personal consumption of farm population. In Poland plan for deliveries by state farms was not fulfilled: however, compared with 1954 deliveries of grain increased by 14%, of slaughter hogs by 5% and of milk by 11%. State farms in Rumania delivered in 1955, 170,000 tons of grain and 953 tons of wool.

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FORESTRY

In 1955, 100.6% of the plan for reforestation was fulfilled in Czechoslovakia; in Bulgaria 107.1% and in Poland 101%.

As a result Czechoslovakia gained 99,000 reforested ha and Bulgaria 47,100 ha.

In 1955, Hungary reforested an area 3 times larger than the deforested area.

Plan for timber production in 1955 was fulfilled in Poland to 102%. About 33% of round timber was conveyed mechanically.

TRANSPORTATION

Plan for freight transportation by public conveyances for 1955 was fulfilled in Czechoslovakia by 105%, in Poland by 101%, in Bulgaria by 99% in tons and in tons per km by 100.9%

Plan for freight railroad transportation was fulfilled in 1955 in Albania to 117.9%, in Rumania to 110% (in tons) or 113% (in tons per km).

Plan for freight water transportation was fulfilled in 1955 in Czechoslovakia to 135%, in Rumania to 101% (in tons) or 66% (in tons per km).

In Bulgaria plan for freight water transportation for 1955 was fulfilled to 112.7% (in tons) or 118.1% (in tons per km).

Plan for maritime freight transportation was fulfilled in Poland to 101% and in Rumania to 90%.

Plan for truck transportation for 1955 was fulfilled in Czechoslovakia to 105%, in Albania to 101.5%, in Poland to 105% and in Bulgaria to 96.5% (in tons and tons per km).

Plan for passenger railroad transportation for 1955 was fulfilled in Albania to 98.8%, in Rumania as regards number of passengers to 107% and in passenger per km traffic to 99.7%.

Plan for bus transportation for 1955 was fulfilled in Czechoslovakia to 107%, in Albania to 104% and in Poland to 110%.

Plan for air freight transportation was fulfilled in Czechoslovakia to 108% and for passenger air travel to 115%.

In accordance with fulfillment of transportation plans, often far above the stipulated requirements, transportation services showed the following increase compared with 1954:

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Index of Transportation Services in 1955 (in % of 1954)

Mode of Transportation	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	Bulgaria		Hungary	Poland	Rumania
			tons	tons km			
Freight Transportation							
Total	-	110	107.5	109.2	-	109	-
Railroads	113	109.6	132.9 ¹	-	107	107	-
Highways	148	111	134.9	124.4	106	125	140
Waterways (rivers)	108	138	-	-	-	-	-
Maritime	122	-	-	-	-	116	-
Air	-	133	-	-	-	-	-
Passenger Travel							
Total	-	106	-	-	-	-	-
Railroads	-	-	-	-	-	104	-
Highways	133	109	-	-	120	109	-
Waterways (rivers)	-	-	-	-	119	-	-

1. Compared with 1952

Plan for average daily railroad freight transportation for 1955 was fulfilled in the Soviet Union to 103%.

Polish railroads carried 6% more coal than in 1954. Bulgaria recorded the following increase in freight transportation compared with 1954: coal 35.6%; ores and alloys 11.4%; cement 12.8%; and construction timber 38.2%.

The following data reflect improvements in transportation management.

Average load of freight trains was increased 6% above 1954 in the Soviet Union and by 11% above 1952 in Bulgaria. This increase in the average load of freight trains in Bulgaria represented for the given period a total saving of 3,400 trains and 35,600 tons of hard coal and other valuable matters.

Daily rate of loading and unloading of freight cars rose in Rumania over 1954 by 13% (plan was fulfilled by 106%).

In comparison with 1954 average circulation time of freight cars was increased in Poland by 3.6% and in Rumania by 10.2% which resulted in an average of 1,089 freight cars available daily without any expansion of the current car park.

Compared with 1954, coal consumption by railroad declined in Poland by 4% and in Rumania by 7.6%.

Percentage of mechanization of cargo handling in Bulgarian ports increased from 63.5% in 1952 to 72.8% in 1955; and mechanization of freight handling in Polish railroad system increased from 14% in 1954 to 16% in 1955.

The bus transportation system was enlarged in Czechoslovakia by 227 additional lines and in Hungary by new connections in length of 1,200 km. During 1953-55 1,189 additional communities were connected by bus lines in Bulgaria and 225 communities in Hungary.

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Transport park received among others in 1955 the following additions:

	Czechoslovakia	Hungary	Rumania
Train Engines (steam)	114	35	44
Train Engines (electric)	10	-	-
Passenger Railroad Cars	417 ¹	-	104
Freight Cars	5,800 ¹	285	1,575 ^{1 2}
Motor Cars	148	-	-
Cross-country Buses	-	262	-
Trucks	-	1,600	-

1. Computed in double-axle cars. 2. Including tanker cars

Due to devoted work of transportation employees, Poland achieved in 1955 the following results:

	Freight transportation	Passenger transportation
Railroad transportation	224 million tons	907 million persons
Highway transportation	49 million tons	146 million persons

COMMUNICATIONS

Plan for services was fulfilled in Bulgaria to 98.4% and in Poland to 103%. Fulfillment of plans in the extent indicated represented a 4.2% increase in Bulgaria and a 13% increase in Poland compared with services furnished in 1954.

In 1955 number of post offices increased by 122 in Czechoslovakia and by 107 in Bulgaria. Number of telephone stations in Czechoslovakia increased by 9%.

In 1955 Bulgaria established telephone communications in 198 agricultural cooperatives and Poland in more than 1,400 communities. In Czechoslovakia plan for telephonization of agricultural establishments was fulfilled to 117%: at the end of 1955 80% of the machine and tractor stations, 74% of state farms and 31% of JZD (United Farm Cooperatives) were connected to state telephone network.

In Poland radio communications were established in more than 2,400 communities, which is a 33% increase over 1954.

INVESTMENTS AND HOUSING

Annual plan for investment buildup of national economy for 1955 was fulfilled in the Soviet Union to only 95%, in Czechoslovakia to 91%, in Bulgaria to 98.2%. Poland also remained under the planned level.

In Albanian People's Republic the Ministry of Construction fulfilled the construction plan to 105.2%. According to the preliminary reports 104% of the state construction plan and 105% of cooperative construction plan were fulfilled.

Although the volume of planned investments for 1955 was not fulfilled, investments in national economies increased over 1954.

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Soviet Union Czecho-slovakia Albania Bulgaria Hungary Poland Rumania

1955 in % of 1954

	Soviet Union	Czecho-slovakia	Albania	Bulgaria	Hungary	Poland	Rumania
Total National Economy	106	-	128.7	108.2	108	103	111
Industry	-	-	-	107.4	-	-	108
Agriculture	-	145	-	142.3	-	138 ²	126
Transportation	-	-	-	-	-	-	119
Communications	-	-	-	122.8	-	-	-
Housing Construction	-	109	-	109.3 ¹	-	-	-

1. Including cultural buildup. 2. With 26% for state farms

Construction work in Czechoslovakia increased by 4%, in Rumania by 15% and in the Soviet Union by 8%, over 1954.

In Rumania industrial investments amounted to 57.5% of total investment (with 84.4% of total industrial investments for production commodities industry).

Many investment projects were put into operation during 1955.

In the Soviet Union, hydroelectric plants were constructed in Kachov, Gorkov, Narva and Knazedub. The first concern of the Kubyshev hydroelectric plant is to produce power for industrial purposes.

In 1955 the capacity of power plants increased in Czechoslovakia by 565,000 kw; in Bulgaria by 60,000 kw; in Rumania by 222,000 kw

Increase in the capacity of power stations in Bulgaria is more than half the capacity of all power stations constructed through 1939.

In Hungary the capacity of power stations, compared with 1955 [sic], was expanded by approximately 120MW, or 13%.

In 1955 high-voltage network in Poland was expanded by 630 km and in Rumania by 224 km. Network of middle and low-voltage in Poland was increased by 2,100 km.

Bulgaria opened new coal mines with the capacity of over 2.3 million tons and Rumania put into operation 334 additional oil wells.

Investment buildup of state farms and machine and tractor stations in Czechoslovakia rose almost 50% above 1954. Capacity of stables was enlarged by 300 additional spaces. Construction of new stables provided the JZD (United Farm Cooperatives) with space capacity for 60,000 cows, 13,000 calves and 100,000 hogs.

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Mechanization of surface work of Polish Ministry of Construction increased from 64% in 1954 to 69% in 1955.

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Plan for rural electrification in Poland was fulfilled to 109%. In comparison with 1954 increase in electrification was as follows: communities 42%, state farms 32% and agricultural cooperatives 37%. In Bulgaria 95 villages were electrified during 1955.

The housing construction in cities and workers communities of the Soviet Union covered a total area of 35 million m² in 1955. They were either constructed with the help of state credit or by private investment. In addition, more than 600,000 houses were built in the rural areas.

In 1955 Bulgaria constructed state subsidized housing on the total area of 560,000 m². In addition, 12,600 houses were built by private investment.

Czechoslovakia constructed 48,000 apartments (13,200 of the total through private investment) in 1955. Hungary completed construction of approximately 30,000 new apartments.

Housing area in Albania was enlarged by 117,000 m².

In Poland about 150,000 rooms were completed for occupancy. Workers in Rumania received a total of 740,000 m² of room space in 1955.

DOMESTIC TRADE

Plan for retail business in the socialist sector for 1955 was fulfilled in Czechoslovakia to 102%, in Bulgaria to 101.9%, in Poland to 101%. The plan was also exceeded in the Soviet Union.

Compared with 1954 sales of the socialist retail business reflected the following gains for consumer goods:

Increase in State and Cooperative Retail Business
Returns for 1955 Compared with 1954 in %

	Soviet Union	Czecho-slovakia	Bulgaria	Hungary	Poland	Rumania
State and Cooperative Retail Business, total	5	11	-	5	11	10
Breakdown:						
Cities	-	-	12	-	-	-
Rural Areas	6 ¹	-	16.2	-	12 ²	-
Food	-	-	-	5	-	-
Industrial commodities	-	-	-	5	-	-

1. Returns of cooperatives in rural areas. 2. Returns in shops of the Union of Farm Cooperatives "Rolnicka Vzájemna Pomoc" (Farm Mutual Aid).

In Rumania total retail business returns amounted to 27.8 million leu.

Sales of farm produce on domestic market by Rumanian agricultural cooperatives rose 30% compared with 1954.

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Expansion of retail business facilities was a contributing factor to improved consumer supplying. Czechoslovakia opened 546 new sale shops, Bulgaria 388 new stores and 588 cafeterias (54 in rural areas); Hungary expanded the retail business facilities by approximately 500 sale shops and cafeterias; in Poland number of state stores was increased by 3,100 units and of retail business sale shops by 4,100 units. Store facilities of state and cooperative business in the Rumanian People's Republic were enlarged by more than 3,300 units (including 950 cafeterias); in rural areas number of cooperative stores increased by almost 1,500 units (including more than 500 cafeterias).

Increase in retail business in basic commodities compared with 1954 (in %):

	Soviet Union	Czechoslovakia	Bulgaria	Hungary	Poland	Rumania	cities and workers communities	rural areas
Meat		4	18	7	-	31	-	-
Meat Products	7	5	25.1	-	-	19	-	-
Fish and Fish Products	14	-	-	-	-	38	-	-
Bread	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-
Sugar	-	4	8.6	7	6	21	-	-
Milk and Milk Products	25	-	-	4	9 ¹	-	-	-
Butter	-	2	-	-	12	-	-	-
Cheese	8	-	14.9	-	-	52	-	-
Eggs	17	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
Fruit	28	15	-	-	-	12	-	-
Beer	-	5	-	18	-	-	-	-
Cotton								
Textiles	-	-	6.3	-	9	-	9	
Wool Textiles	-	-	8.5	-	8	4	13	
Silk Textiles	4	-	35.7	-	10	-	9	
Footwear	3	-	22.2	-	10 ²	21 ²	36 ²	
Furniture	18	12	-	-	16	83	160	
Radios	20	-	-	-	49	-	-	
Televisions	60	130	-	-	-	-	-	
Bicycles	17	-	-	-	39	-	-	
Motorcycles	15	120	-	-	51	-	-	
Cement	19	76	73.5	-	14 ³	-	-	
Bricks	-	41	-	-	23	-	10	

1. Milk only 2. Leather Shoes 3. In stores of agricultural cooperatives

Compared with 1954 workers in Hungary bought 25,000 more bicycles and 102,000 more stoves; purchase of utensils increased by 91 million forint, furniture by 215 million forint and building materials by 300 million forint.

FOREIGN TRADE

Foreign trade showed further increase in 1955. Returns of foreign trade exceeded the 1954 level in Czechoslovakia by 15%, in Hungary by

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10%, in Poland by approximately 4% and in Rumania by 12%.

In the Bulgarian People's Republic the structure of exports underwent a substantial change; whereas in 1939 only 3.8% of exports were industrial products and 96.2% farm produce, in 1955 industrial exports reached 44.5% and farm produce exports declined to 55.5%.

Economic relations with foreign nations were further developed. In 1955 Bulgaria traded with 52 countries, Polish People's Republic with 85 countries and the Rumanian People's Republic with 62 countries.

Balance of foreign trade in the Hungarian People's Republic was active, but below the level stated in the plan. Trade of the Rumanian People's Republic was balanced.

EMPLOYMENT, WAGES AND PRODUCTIVITY

Total employment in the national economy reached 47.9 million at the end of 1955 in the Soviet Union, and in Poland 6.5 million.

Compared with 1954 the employment gain in the Soviet Union was 1,100,000 persons (of which 700,000 was in industry, construction, agriculture, transportation and communications; 170,000 in schools, scientific, research and cultural institutes; 130,000 in hospitals, sanatoria and health resorts; 100,000 in commerce, food services, housing and communal economies).

In Rumania employment in the socialist sector of the national economy increased by 75,000 persons and in Poland by 4% (almost 4% in the socialist sector of industry; 3% in transportation and communications; 5% in commerce and food services).

In Czechoslovakia employment in industry increased by 2% compared with 1954; employment in construction and outfitting services declined by 6%.

In Poland employment in state farms increased by 7% compared with 1954.

In the Soviet Union, vocational, trade and railroad schools, institutes for mechanization of agriculture and schools for work reserves graduated over 650,000 young qualified workers in 1955. They were placed in industry, construction work, transportation and agriculture and more than 280,000 mechanizers were placed in agriculture.

In Poland, state farms and state machine and tractor stations and agricultural administrations accepted for employment additional 4,100 agrotechnicians, veterinary technicians, mechanizers and similarly qualified workers in 1955. In addition, schooling was provided for 13,500 tractor operators, 400 brigadiers for tractor brigades, and 1,000 combine operators in order to meet the demand of Polish state farms and state machine and tractor stations.

In the Soviet Union 7.6 million workers and employees improved their qualifications in 1955 through individual or group in service training. Poland provided factory schooling for some 700,000 workers and Rumania for 125,000.

Compared with 1954 average wages and income of workers in the national economy increased in Czechoslovakia by 2% and in Bulgaria by 3.8%.

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Planned productivity increase for 1955 in industry was exceeded in Hungary by 3.8%.

Productivity increase in 1955 compared with 1954:

	Soviet Union	Czecho-slovakia	Bulgaria	Hungary	Poland	Rumania
Industry	8	8	4.7	6.1	6	11
Construction	10	9	8.2	-	8	-
Transportation	-	-	5.7	-	-	-

In Albania productivity in various industrial fields increased from 1.3% to 27% compared with 1954. In Hungary, rate of productivity increase in industry under ministerial management reached 6.8%, in local economy 5.4%, in cooperative industry 3.6%. In Rumania ministerial management raised productivity level in metallurgical and machine industry by 18%, in chemical industry by 16% and in building materials industry by 17%.

The Soviet Union introduced during 1955 in industry, construction work and transportation approximately 1 million inventions, technical refinements and efficiency improvements suggested by workers. In Czechoslovakia workers in national economy submitted over 120,000 improvement suggestions and in Poland a total of 273,000 of which 184,000 were approved (15% more than in 1954). Bulgarian industry received in 1955, 31,000 improvement suggestions (4,000 more than in 1954). Rumanian industry approved in 1955 over 30,000 suggested improvements.

NATIONAL INCOME AND RISE OF LIVING STANDARDS

National income in the Soviet Union increased by 10% over 1954, in Czechoslovakia by 9%, in Bulgaria by 14% and according to the preliminary reports by 8% in Poland, and in Rumania by 19%.

Increase in national income secured further rise in living standards:

	Increase above 1954
Soviet Union	
Population received in various subsidies, payments and relief 154 billion rubles	5%
Collective farmers, receipts per work units	370 million pud grain
Money payments to collective farmers and workers of tractor stations per work units	about 10%
Total income based on raise of wages, payments and goods received by farmers, payments and subsidies from state sources in comparable values:	
laborers and employees	3%
farmers	7%
Private deposits in savings banks	over 5 billion rubles

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Czechoslovakia

Personal consumption of population	10%
Deposits in savings banks	over 1,609 million crowns

Poland

Actual wages of workers and employees	6%
Actual income of farmers	7%

Rumania

Actual wages of laborers and employees	8%
Total of various payments, subsidies and relief from state sources	949.5 million leu
Payments and goods received by working farmers and their family members	15%
Private deposits in savings banks	82%
Number of depositors	31%

Reduction in state retail prices in 1955 represented a total savings of over 1.3 billion crowns for the citizens in Czechoslovakia; 500 million levs in Bulgaria (through fifth price reduction); around 2.4 billion zlotys in Poland (through third price reduction); and 600 million leus in Rumania.

In Rumania, rise in actual income and 2 reductions of retail prices brought increased food consumption. The increase over 1954 is reflected in the data compiled from family bills and is as follows:

for families of workers and employees

meat	33%	fats	31%
fish	23%	rice	37%
milk	6%	potatoes	11%
eggs	19%	bread	3%

for families of working farmers

fats	25%	eggs	22%
milk	13%	meat	3%

EDUCATION

Special emphasis on education resulted in increased number of schools, classrooms, etc.

Constructed or Established in 1955	Increase over 1954
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Bulgaria

Space capacity in newly constructed schools	20,000
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Hungary

Elementary schools	114 with 338 classrooms
High Schools	9 with 45 classrooms

Poland

7-grade grammar schools (total)	606
of which in rural areas	495
Classrooms in grammar schools	4%

Following table indicates number of students and graduates of different educational levels:

Soviet Union

	Number of Students	Increase over 1954
Students in all grades, institutes and industrial schools	almost 35 million	
Students in 8th-10th grades of high schools (total)		157,000
in rural areas		90,000
Graduates of 10th grade high schools		23%
Students of industrial high schools ²	1,900,000	100,000
University students	1,865,000	135,000
Graduates of universities and industrial high schools	640,000	70,000

Bulgaria

Students in general education schools	1,090,000
Students in industrial and specialized high schools	58,937
Graduates of industrial and specialized high schools	15,506
University students ⁴	37,049
University graduates	4,421

Czechoslovakia

	Number of students in school year 1955/56	Increase over school year 1954/55
Students in elementary schools	1,916,000	3%
Students in 9th-11th grades of 11-grade high schools		15%
Students in professional and pedagogic schools		2%
Degree students in universities	48,500	550

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Special studies for workers in professional and high schools	over 51,000
in universities	over 22,000
Students in institutes for state reserve forces and in factory trade schools	139,000

Number of graduates
in 1955

Graduates of professional and pedagogic schools	11%
University graduates	18%
Graduates of mining, rail- road and other specialized institutes for work reserve forces and of factory trade schools	68,000

Hungary

	Number of students in school year 1955/56	Increase over school year 1954/55
Students in general education schools	1,226,000	19,000
Students in high schools	151,700	
University students	43,800	

Poland

	Number of students in 1955	Increase over 1954
Students in 1st grade grammar schools	668,500	7%
Students in all grades grammar schools		6%
Students in lyceum	201,000	
University graduates	24,800	12%

Rumania

	Number of graduates in 1955
Graduates of technical high schools	21,800
University graduates	7,700

1. Including schools for young workers and farmers. 2. Including circuit schools. 3. Including night classes. 4. Including special university studies.

In Hungary 50% of the graduates of elementary schools and about 20% of high school graduates continue their studies at higher level in the academic year 1955/56.

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Among the 17,772 university graduates in Bulgaria for the period 1953-55, 3,755 were doctors, 2,261 agronomists, 3,754 engineers, 2,846 economists and 3,069 pedagogists.

Care for preschool age children was broadened. In Bulgaria number of nursery schools rose from 5,216 in 1952 to 6,280 in 1955. Hungary opened 27 new nursery schools with 1,600 spaces. In Poland number of children attending nursery schools increased to 385,000, or 2% over 1954; during field work seasons over 65,000 children were placed in nursery schools in rural areas.

CULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Growing cultural needs of population and effective support given to cultural life by the appropriate authorities were responsible for considerable increase in fulfillment of the plan for individual sectors of cultural life.

In the Soviet Union, number of libraries reached a total of 390,000 with approximately 1,300 million volumes. The Bulgarian libraries (minimum of 500 books per unit) had in the first half of 1955 over 11 million volumes, or an increase of 4 million compared with the first half of 1952.

The following data indicate increase in publications:

	Number of Published Books	Total of Copies
Soviet Union	-	over 1 billion
Czechoslovakia	4,400	1)
Hungary	17,500	45 million
Rumania	over 2,800 ²⁾	35.4 million

1) Average printing 10,600 copies. 2) Including brochures

The total number of books published in Hungary increased by 15% over 1954. In Rumania of the total published books and brochures (35.4 million copies) approximately 2,859,000 were technical and scientific publications and over 3 million books were printed in the languages of national minorities.

In 1955, 70 theaters in Czechoslovakia staged 26,230 performances. Attendance at these performances reached 12.8 million. In Hungary 11,700 theater and opera performances were attended by approximately 6.6 million persons during 1955. The number of performances increased by 18% above 1954. In Poland number of theaters and music institutes rose 6% above 1954.

Expansion of film industry in 1955 is reflected in the following data:

	Movie Theaters		Attendance	
	In Operation at the end of 1955	Increase over 1954	Total (million)	Increase over 1954
Soviet Union	over 58,000	about 3,000	-	-
Czechoslovakia	3,478	-	163.6	7.6%
Hungary	3,650	-	116	18 million
Poland	-	5%	-	5%
in rural areas	-	6%	-	-

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In Rumania total attendance of theater, opera and film performances and symphonic concerts increased 25% over 1954.

Number of radio owners at the end of 1955 in Czechoslovakia totalled 2.8 million; in Hungary 1,430,000, and in Rumania 1,164,000. Increase over 1954 was 4% in Czechoslovakia, 13% in Hungary and 27% in Rumania.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE

The total number of hospital beds and doctors increased in 1955 as follows:

Absolute or relative increase over 1954

	Hospital Beds	Doctors
Soviet Union	over 60,000	almost 12,000
Czechoslovakia	4,500	749 ¹
Bulgaria	18% ²	-
Hungary	2,900	100 ³
Poland	7,000	-

1. Physician positions. 2. Compared with 1952. 3. District physicians; 124 vacancies still existed at the end of 1955

Production of medications, hospital equipment and instruments increased 29% in the Soviet Union compared with 1954. In Hungary total of workhours for specialists in the health institutes increased by 9% compared with 1954.

Space capacity in sanatoria and rest centers increased by 14,000 in the Soviet Union. Czechoslovakia opened during the past year 8 new hospitals, 8 maternity hospitals, 2 institutes for infant care, 8 children homes, etc.

Further development of health services and social welfare in 1955 is reflected in the following data:

	Number of Patients, Recuperants	Increase over 1954
Health Care		
Czechoslovakia		
State balneological institutes	74,000	almost 3,800
Health institutes of ROH	over 150,000	-
Recreation		
Soviet Union		
Health resorts for adults	-	over 170,000
Summer camps for children	5,800,000	-
Czechoslovakia		
Health resorts of ROH	over 225,000	-
Health resorts of factories	over 100,000	-
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Recreation camps and health resorts for school youth	over 140,000	-
Albania		
Recreation centers and resorts for adults		10.7%
Recreation centers for children		22.5%
Bulgaria		
Health resorts for adults	over 185,000	60.4%
Summer camps for children	127,352	-
Poland		
Health resorts for adults	over 469,000	10.0%
Summer camps for children and youth	over 65,000	-
Rumania		
Resorts and recreation centers (including children)	over 460,000	-

In the Soviet Union, spaces in the day nurseries for employed women increased by more than 45,000 above 1954 figures: in Hungary by 2,700 (or 12%) and in Poland by 10%. In Czechoslovakia the number of nurseries was increased by 12 with the space capacity of 809.

POPULATION

Better living conditions contributed to a favorable population increase.

Number of live born children in Hungary is 5% over the average of the past 5 years. Infant mortality is 8% below the 1954 level.

In 1955 death-rate per 1,000 inhabitants was 9.6 in Czechoslovakia and 10 in Bulgaria. Infant mortality dropped in Czechoslovakia to 33.9 per 1,000 births compared with 37.6 in 1954.

Czechoslovakia recorded in 1955 a 10.6 population increase per 1,000 persons. Population in Hungary increased in 1955 by 112,000 persons.

At the end of 1955 Czechoslovakia had 13,157,000 inhabitants and Hungary over 9,860,000.

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